

globe. This year's festivals were held in Church Square Park on Sunday, June 24, 2001. The Puerto Rican Cultural Committee of Hoboken and the Hoboken Office of Hispanic and Minority Affairs cosponsored the event.

The Puerto Rican Cultural Committee of Hoboken and the Hoboken Office of Hispanic and Minority Affairs did a marvelous job in coordinating and planning this year's festivities. For years, these organizations have promoted cultural and community events in Hoboken, which showcase the heritage, pride, and uniqueness of each nationality or ethnic group in Hoboken. In addition, these two organizations provide essential social and professional guidance for Latinos in Hoboken.

This lively and spirited festival features artists and musicians from all around the world, as well as Puerto Rican music and dance. The Festival is a place where the entire family can enjoy activities, such as animal rides, a petting zoo, outdoor concerts, and over a hundred food vendors serving appetizing Caribbean cuisine.

Hoboken's Puerto Rican Community has been an integral part of the city, and has contributed economically, culturally, and socially to the well-being of our District and State.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the participants and co-sponsors of the Eighth Annual Puerto Rican International Festival of Hoboken, New Jersey.

INDIAN GOVERNMENT CAUGHT RED-HANDED TRYING TO BURN DOWN SIKH HOMES, GURDWARA IN KASHMIR

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 26, 2001

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, in March 2000 when President Clinton was visiting India, 35 Sikhs were murdered in cold blood in the village of Chithi Singhpora in Kashmir. Although the Indian government continues to blame alleged "Pakistani militants," two independent investigations have proven that the Indian government was responsible for this atrocity.

Now it is clear that this was part of a pattern designed to pit Sikhs and Kashmiri Muslims against each other with the ultimate aim of destroying both the Sikh and Kashmiri freedom movements. The Kashmir Media Service reported on May 28 that five Indian soldiers were caught red-handed in Srinagar trying to set fire to a Gurdwara (a Sikh temple) and some Sikh homes. The troops were overpowered by Sikh and Muslim villagers as they were about to sprinkle gunpowder on Sikh houses and the Gurdwara. Several other troops were rescued by the Border Security Forces. The villagers even seized a military vehicle, which the army later had to come and reclaim.

At a subsequent protest rally, local leaders said that this incident was part of an Indian government plan to create communal riots. As such, it fits perfectly with the Chithi Singhpora massacre.

Mr. Speaker, India has been caught red-handed trying to commit an atrocity to generate violence by minorities against each other. Now that the massive numbers of minorities the Indian government has murdered

have been exposed, it is trying to get the minorities to kill each other. Instead they are banding together to stop the government's sinister plan. The plan to create more bloodshed is backfiring on the Indian government.

Such a plan is a tyrannical, unacceptable abuse of power. As the superpower in the world and the leader of the forces of freedom, we must take a stand against this tyrannical, terrorist activity. First, President Bush should reconsider the idea of lifting the sanctions against India. Those sanctions should remain in place until the Indian government learns to respect basic human rights. Until then, the United States should provide no aid to India. And to ensure the survival and success of freedom in South Asia, we should go on record strongly supporting self-determination for all the peoples and nations of South Asia in the form of a free and fair, internationally-monitored plebiscite on the issue of independence for Khalistan, Kashmir, Nagalim, and all the nations seeking their freedom. This is the best way to let freedom reign in all of South Asia and to create strong allies for America in that troubled region.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to place the May 28 Kashmir News Service article on the Indian forces trying to burn the Gurdwara into the RECORD at this time for the information of my colleagues, especially those who defended India at the time of the Chithi Singhpora massacre.

[From the Kashmir Media Service, May 28, 2001]

ATTEMPT TO SET ABLAZE SIKH HOUSES IN IHK FOILED

SRINAGAR—Evil forces behind incidents like collective murder of Sikhs in Chatti Singhpora were publicly exposed when the people frustrated the Task Forces' designs to set ablaze Sikh houses and Gurdwara in Srinagar late Saturday night.

According to Kashmir Media Service, Muslims and Sikhs came out of their houses in full force and overpowered five of the Indian troops who were about to sprinkle gun powder on Sikhs' houses and adjoining Gurdwara in Alucha Bagh locality with an intention to set them on fire.

The people also seized a military vehicle, the Task Force personnel were riding in. Twelve troops, however, succeeded to escape. Later, the Border Security Force personnel rescued the Task Force personnel. However, the captured vehicle was retained by the people from which, petrol, hand grenades and hundreds of tear gas shells were recovered.

Former APHC Chairman, Syed Ali Gilani led an APHC delegation, including Qazi Ahadullah and Abdul Khaliq Hanif, to the site of the incident. A protest procession was taken out in the locality. The protestors were addressed by Syed Ali Gilani, Ranjiet Singh Sodi, Sardar Bali, Qazi Ahadullah and Abdul Khaliq Hanif.

Syed Ali Gilani recalled the collective murder of Sikhs in Chatti Singhpora and said, now that India has invited Pakistan's Chief Executive General Musharraf for talks, this sinister plan had been hatched to vitiate the atmosphere by creating communal riots.

HONORING JANE E. NORTON

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 26, 2001

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize a woman that has

made numerous contributions to the State of Colorado and the United States. Jane Norton has served the State in various capacities over the years, and is currently being recognized by her alma mater Colorado State University for her varied accomplishments. As her friends, family and classmates gather to honor Jane Norton, I too would like to pay tribute to Jane. Clearly her hard work is worthy of the praise of Congress.

Jane Norton received her Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences from Colorado State University in 1976. She went on to earn her Masters in Management from Regis University. After graduation Jane held many positions in the government. Most notably Jane was the regional director of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, under the administrations of President Ronald Reagan and President George Bush. While serving as the regional director, Jane received the U.S. Public Health Service Assistant Secretary's Award for Outstanding Accomplishment for increasing immunization rates. This is only one of many awards Jane received during her tenure as the regional director of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Currently Jane runs a number of broad-based health and environmental protection programs ranging from disease prevention, family and community health services and emergency medical services and prevention. Jane is also Secretary of the State Board of Health, a Commissioned Officer for the Food and Drug Administration, and serves on the Board of Directors for the Regional Air Quality Council and Natural Resource Damages Trustee. Throughout her distinguished career, Jane has been and still is known to her friends and colleagues as a team player. Jane is not only a bright and intelligent woman, but also a woman with incredible people skills.

As Jane receives distinction among her former classmates, Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to thank her for her service to the United States of America. She has worked hard for this country, and her hard work is deserving of the recognition of Congress.

CESAR CHAVEZ DAY OF SERVICE AND LEARNING

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 26, 2001

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my colleague Mr. BERMAN, to congratulate Governor Davis on the first annual Cesar Chavez Day of Service and Learning, funded through the Governor's Office on Service and Volunteerism (GO SERV).

Cesar E. Chavez, a civil rights leader and community servant, committed his life to empowering people. He championed the cause of thousands of farm workers in order to improve their lives and communities and to work for social justice. Chavez believed that service to others was a way of life, not merely an occupation of an occasional act of charity. He forged a legacy of service, conviction and principled leadership. Californians celebrate and